

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please enter the following amendments:

1. (currently amended) A process for forming amorphous atorvastatin, comprising:
  - (a) dissolving atorvastatin in a solution comprising a hydroxylic solvent; and
  - (b) rapidly evaporating said hydroxylic solvent from said solution to form amorphous atorvastatin, wherein said solvent is evaporated by spray drying.
2. (original) The process of claim 1 wherein said hydroxylic solvent is selected from the group consisting of methanol, ethanol, n-propanol, and iso-propanol.
3. (original) The process of claim 2 wherein said hydroxylic solvent is methanol..
4. (original) The process of claim 1 wherein said evaporation in step (b) is carried out such that at least 90 wt% of said solvent is removed from said solution in less than five minutes.
5. (original) The process of claim 1 wherein said evaporation in step (b) is carried out such that at least 90 wt% of said solvent is removed from said solution in less than one minute.
6. (canceled)
7. (original) The process of claim 1 wherein said solvent is evaporated by spray-coating said solution onto a core, affording an atorvastatin coated core.
8. (original) The process of claim 7 wherein said core is selected from the group consisting of non-pareil seeds, sugar beads, wax beads, glass beads, lactose, microcrystalline cellulose, polymer beads, starch, colloidal silica, calcium carbonate and calcium phosphate.
9. (original) The process of claim 7 wherein said core is selected from the group consisting of a tablet, pill, multiparticulate and capsule.

10. (currently amended) The process of claim 9 wherein said tablet, pill, multiparticulate or capsule contains a drug atorvastatin.

11. (currently amended) The process of claim 1 wherein said amorphous atorvastatin is in the form of particles having a mean average diameter of ~~less than 500 m~~ ranging in size from 1  $\mu$ m to less than 500  $\mu$ m.

12. (currently amended) The process of claim 1 wherein said amorphous atorvastatin is in the form of particles having a mean average diameter of ~~ranging in size from 1  $\mu$ m to less than 100 m~~.

13 -14. (canceled)

15. (original) The process of claim 7 wherein evaporation is carried out such that at least 90 weight % of said solvent is removed from said solution in less than five minutes.

16. (original) The process of claim 7 wherein evaporation is carried out such that at least 90 weight % of said solvent is removed from said solution in less than one minutes.

17. (original) The process of claim 1 wherein said amorphous atorvastatin has a residual solvent level of less than 1 wt %.

18. (original) The process of claim 7 wherein said atorvastatin coated core has a residual solvent level of less than 1 wt %.

19.-22. (canceled)